

you do is you force, by passing LB 37 at this time, the Legislature then to make up that revenue through another revenue source, or require that cuts in budgets be made. And I think that it ought to stand alone, it ought to stand alone after we have dealt with the budget items, the appropriations side of things. I think it ought to fall after the 55th day, and if the body feels at that point in time that it is necessary to pass this measure, then we can deal with it. We will have plenty of time to deal with it. It will be at the top of the list, and I would move at this point in time, Mr. President, that we bracket the bill until the 55th day, April 8th of this session. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hall. On the motion to bracket, Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I would have to oppose this bracket motion. I think that we've discussed this issue a number of times this year, and we have discussed it a number of times last year. I think the people and the votes are there to put this bill on Select...on Select File, and I think we should do that. If there is some difficulty with where the money is coming from and who is going to get what money for what, being somewhat of a simple man, I guess I would suggest that we get together and decide if we are going to support a sales tax for Omaha and Lincoln, in exchange for this fertilizer tax, put it up front, talk about it, and deal with it. I am not sure that it is to anybody's advantage to put this bill over on a bracket motion to April the 8th, or whatever the date was, because I think we should deal with it today. In response to some of the remarks that Senator Beutler made about fertilizer dealers being responsible for correcting the difficulties with nitrates in our ground water system, that's probably partially right. I am not sure that the farmers and ranchers of this state should have to pay for that themselves. I think that there are other funds available for that, and I think that what we have done with the fertilizer tax and trying to use that as an excuse for testing city water supplies that we have picked on the wrong people. I think for sometime that early on in the development of these irrigated properties, and I have got a whole bunch of them in my district, 25 years ago we didn't have a problem. Today we do. The problem is there because of the percolation effect of nitrates, and of excess nitrates put on the soils in those days. I think that people are wiser today. They know how much to use to